



Claims for Losses Due to Theft



Someone stole my things; will the Army reimburse me for the loss?

It's possible! The Army will generally reimburse you if you're a "proper claimant" and you made reasonable efforts to safeguard the stolen property.

Who is a "proper claimant"?

Members of the Active Army, members of the USAG or the ARNG performing inactive-duty training or active service, a civilian employee of the DA, and a civilian employee of the DOD who is not an employee of the Department of the Navy or Department of the Air Force.

What are "reasonable efforts to safeguard" my property?

It's what a reasonable person would do under similar circumstances. A reasonable person, in case you don't know, would lock the door to his apartment, close the windows on his car, and keep large amounts of cash in a safe. Sometimes a reasonable person does even more, like placing a bar on a sliding glass door to prevent it from being jimmied. If you're confused about what a reasonable person might do, you're probably not a reasonable person, so ask your friends for help.

Can my wife or agent file my claim for me?

Yes. An authorized agent or your spouse can file a claim on your behalf if they provide a written and dated document signed by you authorizing them to do so.

What is the first thing I should do if someone steals my stuff?

In all cases of theft of personal property, claimants must report loss to the military police or, if off-post, to the Korean National police immediately or as soon as possible. Thefts which are not reported immediately, or as soon as practicable, are normally considered to be unsubstantiated and, therefore, not payable.

For more information, contact legal assistance or see Army Regulation 27-20 and DA Pamphlet 27-162.

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